

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District

Walla Walla District
Public Affairs Office

News Release-update-

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Corps recreation season, facilities set to open April 1

Walla Walla, Wash. - Recreation areas operated by the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will open April 1, according to a Corps natural resource official. Recreation facilities in the Tri-Cities area include Hood, Charbonneau, Fishhook, Windust and Levey parks.

"Day-use facilities, including swim beaches, picnic grounds, boat launches and public restrooms are available daily from 6 a.m.-10 p.m.," said Barry Richards, park manager at Ice Harbor Lock and Dam. "Group picnic shelter reservations for the summer 2000 recreation season are now being accepted," added Richards.

Guided powerhouse tours at Ice Harbor and other interpretive programs are available to the public at the Ice Harbor Visitor Information Center. That facility is open seven days a week from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for the summer season. Group picnic shelter and tour reservations can be made by calling the Ice Harbor office at (509) 547-7781 from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Pacific Salmon Visitor Information Center, at McNary Dam, Hermiston, Ore., will also open April 1. The visitor center has interactive computer displays and a video presentation and is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Reservations for group picnic shelters at West McNary Park and Spillway Park can be made by calling the visitor center at (541) 922-4388.

To reserve Corps-operated campsites, the public can call toll free (877) 444-6777 or visit the Reserve USA website at www.reserveusa.com. Daily fees for camping range from \$8 for primitive camping at Windust Park to \$18 for full hookup sites at Charbonneau Park. Corps

officials are considering major renovations and modernization of the entire Hood Park area that may cause closure for the 2001 camping season.

For more information about recreation opportunities call Barry Richards at (509) 547-7781.